



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Takashi Yamaguchi et al.  
Confirmation No: 4930  
Serial No. : 09/691,435  
Filed : October 18, 2000  
TC/A.U. : 3714  
Examiner : S.L. Ashburn

Docket No. : 00-631  
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111(C)

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated December 2, 2003 having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire March 2, 2004, having been extended for three months so as to expire on June 2, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on Page 21 of this paper.

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